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he neither belittles facts nor heightens effects. He looks steadily at his fact, he sees true, he reports accurately. If this seems to be other than great praise, it is because our sense of values needs transvaluation. "Clayhanger" is a very great novel.

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## CHILDREN'S BOOKS.

"A Wonder Book" and "Tanglewood Tales." By Nathaniel Hawthorne. Illustrated by Maxfield Parrish. New York: Duffield & Co., 1910.

It is a notable fact that the most interesting and most beautiful children's books of the season are reprints of earlier books. Hardly a year passes that Hawthorne's tales from Greek Mythology are not reprinted in some form or other for the children. Together with Kingsley's "Greek Heroes," the "Tanglewood Tales" and "A Wonder Book" furnish the child's best introduction to that golden land and literature which still is the noblest pasture land of the poetic imagination. The value of the present edition lies chiefly in the beautiful illustrations by Maxfield Parrish. In form the volume is like the "Poems of Childhood," by Eugene Field, and the "Arabian Nights Tales," retold by Kate Douglas Wiggin, both published by Messrs. Charles Scribner's Sons in previous holiday seasons. There are ten full-page illustrations. Of these "Circe's Palace," "The Fountain of Pirene" and "Proserpine" are exquisite pictures quite in Mr. Parrish's best manner. "Cadmus Sowing the Dragon's Teeth" is full of motion and breeze, but the picture is somewhat marred by the amount of ugly gold-red-brown color in which the newer color prints revel. The coloring again mars the charm of the picture of "Bellerophon." All in all, the book is one of the most sumptuous of the children's books of this season.

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"The Flint Heart." By Eden Phillpotts. New York: E. P. Dutton & Co., 1910.

That Eden Phillpotts could write as well of the comedies of childhood as the tragedies of the peasants we learned in that humorous classic, "The Eternal Boy." "Flint Heart" is redeemed from being a mere fairy-story with an historical picture as an introduction by Mr. Phillpotts's exuberant fancy and delightful humor. The whole of Dartmoor, from the stone age to the present day, with the little farm of Merripit cuddled in a hollow, the dog and the children and the farmers, the learned archæologist from London, the Sun, Zagobog and the Thunderspirit, and the fairies and pixies and the bluebells, and the hot-water bottle made in Germany take important parts in this delightful fantasy. The story is young enough and simple enough to hold the attention of any childish mind and yet is full enough and bright enough and charming enough to leave behind an ample store of pictures and fancies and jests.

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"The Children's Plutarch" is two volumes—"Tales from the Greeks," "Tales from the Romans"—arranged by F. J. Gould, with an Introduction by W. D. Howells. New York and London: Harper & Brothers, 1910.

These two valuable volumes furnish a solution to the problem of those parents who have vainly urged the "Lives" of Plutarch upon the young.